

MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

To: The Governing Board

FROM: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: \ November 7, 2007

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of resolution approving the action of the Executive Officer in establishing the employment category of Emergency On-

Call Firefighter including the establishment of employment terms and

compensation.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution approving the establishment of the employment category of Emergency On-Call Firefighter including the establishment of employment terms and compensation.

<u>Background</u>: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) provides fire protection services for parkland, and when requested to do so by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services(OES) or FEMA, to the State of California. The MRCA OES agreement specifies the reimbursement rate for services rendered to the State for both equipment and personnel.

The MRCA has an active fire program which has provided needed fire trained and equipped personnel. Currently MRCA Fire Volunteers receive no compensation for their commitment to OES or FEMA reimbursed fires, which has proven to be a hardship during these extended assignments. Additionally, MRCA regular employees receive their regular pay during these declared events. There is a disparity between our OES reimbursement rate and the hourly pay rate of many MRCA regular employees.

To remedy this situation, staff is recommending that under certain conditions, both MRCA regular employees and Fire Volunteers receive compensation as Emergency On-Call Firefighters at rates to be determined by the Executive Officer.